

and support its efforts to designate the week of July 5–11, 2015 as National Roofing Week.

As the first line of defense against natural elements, such as rain, snow or wind, the roof is one of the most critical features of any home or business. Yet, despite its importance, it is often taken for granted until it falls into disrepair. National Roofing Week is a valuable reminder of the significance that quality roofing has on our communities and honors the thousands of contractors in the roofing industry across the United States.

NRCA's 3,800 members, located across all 50 States, play a significant role in the installation and maintenance of roofing systems. With a vast network of roofing contractors and industry-related members, NRCA handles a majority of new construction and replacement roof systems on commercial and residential structures in America. However, the organization's activities extend beyond its construction duties.

National Roofing Week provides an opportunity to recognize the thousands of NRCA members and their commitment to supporting their local communities. As part of its outreach efforts last year, NRCA members worked together to raise funds and repair the roof for a local nonprofit organization that provides health services and housing options for mistreated and abused children in Chicago. I commend the NRCA and the vital role the organization and its members play in every community and I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging their contributions during National Roofing Week.●

REMEMBERING TROOPER JAMES A. MOEN AND RECOGNIZING MEGAN PETERS

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, on Thursday, the Alaska State Troopers will pause to recognize the 14th anniversary of the loss of Trooper James A. Moen. Trooper Moen, assigned to fish and wildlife protection duties, was killed in an aircraft accident while on law enforcement patrol near Lake Iliamna, AK. Trooper Moen was piloting the single-engine Piper Cub float plane when it crashed for unknown reasons. His remains were recovered by troopers who hiked in to the scene. Trooper Moen had served with the Alaska State Troopers—fish and wildlife protection for over 18 years and had over 4,000 hours of flight time as both a military and civilian pilot. He was survived by his wife and four children.

One of Trooper Moen's children is Megan Peters, a spokesperson for the Alaska State Troopers. Megan's name is perhaps better known among Alaskans than her father's was. But one thing that Alaskans may not know is that Megan plays a leading role in organizing the Alaska police memorial ceremony each May. While all Alaska's law enforcement officers who gave

their lives in the line of duty are recognized in this ceremony, the emphasis is on honoring those who passed in the preceding year.

There is a certain irony to Megan's involvement in all this. During Police Week, Megan devotes her energy to comforting the families of other fallen officers. But who is there to recognize and comfort Megan, herself a survivor of a law enforcement tragedy? That irony was not lost on Mallory Peebles, a reporter from KTUU Television in Anchorage. During the 2013 ceremony, Mallory devoted a segment of Channel 2 News to telling Megan's story—then and now.

So this year, through this message in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, it is my intention to honor both father and daughter. The legacy of Trooper James A. Moen very much lives on in the work of his daughter Megan. I didn't know Trooper Moen, but I have to believe that he would be very proud of Megan's work.

My staff and I rely on Megan throughout the year for information on public safety issues in Alaska. She is the go-to person and gets us the answers we need on short deadline. We appreciate her knowledge and diligence, but rarely do we think to take a moment to say thank you.

I ask unanimous consent that Mallory Peebles report on the work of Megan Peters be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Channel 2 News, May 20, 2013]

LOST IN THE LINE OF DUTY: A STATE TROOPER'S STORY 12 YEARS LATER

(By Mallory Peebles and Photojournalist Shawn Wilson)

ANCHORAGE, AK.—When a service member or civilian in uniform makes the ultimate sacrifice, they are officially considered lost in the line of duty. Channel Two is looking back at three Alaskans and their families who have paid the ultimate price. On May 10, The State of Alaska recognized Peace Officers Memorial Day. It's a somber yet iconic event to mark and mourn Alaska's law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. This year the annual event was organized by State Trooper spokeswoman Megan Peters. For Peters it's more than just a work assignment, it's personal. "My dad was a fish cop, fish and wildlife. So he was a brown shirt," Peters said. Peters said growing up she always knew her father did important work with the Alaska Troopers—sometimes even dangerous work—but as a child she didn't focus on the dangers of the job. "He would go out on the boat all the time. He loved flying," Peters said. "People say yeah, it's something that you know could happen but I was a little kid, and my dad was a trooper the whole time, so why would something happen?" When Peters was just 18-years-old something did happen. Her father was flying on a routine sport fishing patrol near Iliamna when his plane crashed. It was May 25, 2001. Megan was studying abroad in Finland when her mother called with the news. "I was just walking down the street, and I'll never forget the first thing she said was 'I'm so sorry Megan,'" Peters said. "I don't remember anything after that phone call. I don't remember packing. I

didn't have to change my plane tickets because I was already leaving. I just came home, and it was a different life." It was a life without a father who had meant the world to her. "When he wasn't working he was always taking us out. We had a boat and we had our own plane in high school," Peters said. "My dad loved Alaska and that's why he came up here. He came up with the intent on wanting to be a State Trooper." James Arthur Moen was a productive Alaska State Trooper. For 18 years he served The State of Alaska. A member of the Special Emergency Response Team, SERT and dive unit, Moen assisted in numerous rescues and recovery missions. Today, he is still remembered for his contributions across the state. A trooper boat is named after Moen and still operates out of Petersburg. While serving Alaskans, Moen also served as a strong role model for his daughter. She decided to follow in her father's footsteps and is now working with the State Troopers. Peters joined the Troopers in 2007 where she is tasked with writing a press release each time a plane crashes in Alaska and troopers respond. Just like her father's hat that sits on her desk in the office, each press release serves as a constant and often painful reminder of the high cost of duty. "I might not understand what it is that the troopers are doing every single day and what they're facing but I grew up around it enough to know what their jobs do entail," said Peters, "and to know what it's like to be in that environment." Alaska Peace Officers Memorial Day serves as a stark reminder of the life and death situations law enforcement officers face every day while on duty. The harsh realities that come along with the responsibilities of duty in Alaska can mean it's possible they may not come home. Moen's name was added to this memorial more than a decade ago and joins many like it. This year 40-year-old State Trooper Tage Toll of Talkeetna had his name added. He died only two months ago when Helo-One crashed while executing the rescue of a stranded snowmachiner. Village Public Safety Officer Thomas Madole also had his name added to the memorial this year. He was shot and killed while responding to a 911 call in Manokotak. All the names added serve as a reminder of the lives sacrificed for a job, country and state they loved. "My dad was a trooper and a pilot and he loved both, and you could see it every day when he came home," Peters said. "He was happy, he loved his life."

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Very touching story. This year, once again, we reflect on the service of Trooper James A. Moen to our State. At the same time we recognize the continuing contributions of his daughter, Megan, without whom we would not know as much about the triumphs, the risks and the sacrifices made by the troopers who keep Alaskans safe.●

RECOGNIZING CONVERSATIONS

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, small businesses have the unique ability to recognize emerging service gaps in their local economies. Often, these small businesses fill these unique service gaps in targeted, innovative ways. One such entity is this week's Small Business of the Week, Conversations of New Orleans, LA.

In 2010, Megan Hargroder noticed a lack in social media and online engagement consulting for startups, small businesses, and nonprofits in the greater New Orleans area. Eager to fill the